



BRAZIL CITY PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
JUNE 3, 2009

- President Ruthann Jeffries called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- The May 6 minutes were read and approved after a correction was made. The major electrical problems have been cleaned up at the pavilion workshop but not the little white house as stated. That correction was noted and changed.
- Superintendent's Report—Bill Houck
 - The security car has been repaired.
 - The pool is ready for opening thanks to the quick and hard work by Superintendent Houck, Ed Holt, John Day, Madison Stevenson, and Josh Miller. These people readied the pool in a couple of days that normally takes a couple of weeks. The Board received the drain waiver, and work couldn't start without the waiver in hand. Also Spear Corp. was involved with some major leaks.
 - The door at the bandshell has been repaired and reinforced after the vandalism.
 - Considerable maintenance, cleaning, minor repairs have been done to all the parks.
 - Once dry weather comes, several posts will have to be replaced or reset.
 - The hand dryer in the men's restroom at the pavilion is now working.
 - The large oak tree at the southern end of the walking track blew down during the storm. The cost of cleaning up the tree is \$700.
 - A baby swing was destroyed when the fire department had to cut out an adult that was stuck in the swing.
- Treasurer's Report—Linda Messmer
 - Non-reverting Fund
 - Beginning Balance April 30, 2009.....\$11,781.50
 - Revenue..... \$69.30
 - Disbursements..... (\$1,400.00)
 - Ending Balance May 31, 2009.....\$10,450.80

 - Park and Recreation Fund.....(\$18,149.24)
 - Revenue..... \$1,672.48
 - Disbursements..... (\$10,554.03)
 - Ending Balance May 31, 2009.....(\$27,030.79)

The encumbrance and expense lists were reviewed. Mrs. Messmer stated that the parks were entering their busiest and most expensive three months. And, with the unexpected \$15,000 for the changed pool drains, the budget needs close scrutiny. The Board needs to be very diligent concerning excess expenditures.

--Mrs. Jeffries opened the floor to allow patrons to express concerns and opinions. Most comments were about the skate park. Twenty plus people spoke. Most were in favor of a skate park but had different opinions of the location—city properties, each of the three city parks, lots that would be available under the new 1.4 million dollar neighborhood stabilization grant.

NEW BUSINESS

- North Clay Middle School sent a donation of \$25 to be applied for discs for use with the disc golf course. This was a thank you for the recent field day at Forest Park.

SKATE PARK ISSUES

Linda Messmer explained that no Board motion had been made November 7, 2008 when Roberta Weliever and committee members came before the Board. The minutes of that meeting said, "Roberta Weliever of the Brazil Skate Park Committee, spoke to the Board about building a skate park at a location in a city park. Also, Chris Gregg, skate park committee member, and Joe Goodman of ISU Recreation Department were in attendance. Mrs. Weliever and Committee have done considerable research on this matter. Potential sites, the Indiana Extreme Sports Law, money and grants, 501C3 under umbrella of Parks Association, and possible non-park sites were discussed. The Board unanimously would not only support but welcome a skateboard park."

After that reading, Mrs. Messmer read from the April 13, 2005 minutes. The motion reads as follows, "Before Debbie Hobson and Mayor Arthur began their skateboard park presentation, Ruthann Jeffries addressed the inaccuracies on the newspaper article concerning a meeting with skateboard parents. As indicated by the paper, the Board did not meet with the parents—only Mayor Arthur and Mrs. Jeffries; the Board is not opposed to the park. There are simply no funds for such a facility. Mayor Arthur said that skateboarding on city property does significant damage. Presently, if arrested, the fine is \$50. He and Ms. Hobson have visited several parks that cost \$150,000 and up. They were most impressed with the non-extravagant Ellettsville facility. There was discussion about construction materials, size, etc., and the most logical site would be the south side of the building at Craig Park. Several comments came from the number of parents and children in attendance. The skateboard organization (parents) would fund the construction with fundraisers and donations. Also, they would be responsible for supervision and maintenance. Brad Deal motioned to grant permission for use of the land next to the south side of the Craig Park Building to build a skateboard park with the following stipulations. 1) Nothing can be started until all funds for the facility are raised. 2) Although the Board is not liable before, during, or after construction, the Board will be kept informed of the progress. 3) The skateboard organization will be responsible for maintenance and supervision. 4) Before opening, a safety check will be held that is satisfactory to the Board and to the City. Caroline McCullough seconded the motion. Carried."

Board members then presented their views. They were honoring the 2005 motion. Money, or the lack thereof, is a major concern since the Board doesn't have enough funds to maintain the status quo of the parks.

After the reading and discussion of the 2005 motion, the Skate Board Committee asked for time to regroup and discuss the situation. This was most acceptable to the Board. The Committee will return at a future meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

To complete some space left on the Born Learning Trail signs, Raymond Staub designed a "parks" logo for this purpose. Raymond was publicly thanked for this contribution.

Caroline McCullough presented a landscaping bid from Yankee Rose for the area around the Brazilian Fountain. The amount of the bid was \$1735.00. However, since the park funds are dwindling fast, Caroline McCullough motioned to delay the landscaping until next year. Seconded by Todd Brackman. Carried.

Todd Brackman motioned to allow Mark Rogers, FP Golf Course pro, to install a sign to promote disc golf east of the Comfort Station at his expense. Seconded by Linda Messmer. Carried. Free discs will be available on a sign-out basis in the pro shop. The Board agreed that if Mr. Rogers wants to stock discs for purchase, he might do so.

The parking issues on the east side of the CYL diamonds are better. Park employees have put up barriers, and Mr. Stewart of the CYL has announced at games about the problem and the possibility of vehicles being towed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline McCullough, Secretary